UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/364
31 March 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 31 MARCH 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

At 1700 hours on 18 March 1999 a Kuwaiti patrol unit consisting of two naval craft intercepted the Iraqi fishing boat bearing the number 155/Basrah inside Iraq's territorial waters in the Khawr Abd Allah area east of buoy 7. The patrol fired on the boat, shattering the cockpit windscreen. The Kuwaiti patrol required the boat's master, Adil Murtada Abd, to lower his flag and hand over the identity documents of the nine accompanying fishermen and the compass.

I request you to intervene with the Government of Kuwait with a view to halting these repeated and unwarranted actions, given that they are in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and of public international law and that they pose a threat to the sovereignty and security of Iraq. I also affirm Iraq's legally established right to seek lawful compensation for the damage done to it and to its nationals by the perpetration of these hostile acts.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

99-09159 (E) 010499 010499